

Applicant: Balint et al.
Application No.: 10/506,852
Art Unit: 1791

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 1-3, 5-22 and 24-29 are amended, claims 4 and 23 are canceled and claim 30 is added.

I. Claim Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. § 102

A. Under the heading “Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102”, in the second paragraph, the Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 7-10, 12, 14-16, 18-19, 21-23, 26 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,251,954 to Vander Kopple et al. (Vander Kopple). Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is moot in view of the above-outlined amendment to the claims.

Claims 1, 12, 15, 19 and 22 have been variously amended to set forth a moveable core and a stationary insert. Support for the amendment to the claims can be found at least in paragraph [0024], which states in part, “The insert assembly 44 is secured to the moving mechanism retainer plate 18 while **the core 40 moves relative thereto.**” (emphasis added); paragraph [0031], which states in part, “**Because the inner insert remains stationary, the core block 40 around it shifts** the face 102 of the inner insert 44 in an amount equal to the recess which equals the second shot wall thickness as shown in figure 3A.” (emphasis added); and paragraph [0035], which states in part, “To return the tool 10 to the first shot position, the tonnage is dumped, the press is opened to the desired distance and then spacer mechanism 32 is shifted in a direction opposite arrow 94 so as to allow **the core block 40 to shift in a downward direction** to the position illustrated in figure 3.” (emphasis added).

It should be appreciated that in the above-outlined portion of paragraph [0024] the term “moving mechanism retainer plate 18” refers to a retainer plate for a moving mechanism, rather than a mechanism retainer plate that moves.

Claims 2, 3, 7-10, 14, 16, 18, 21, 26 and 28 each depend from one of claims 1, 12, 15, 19 or 22. As such, each of claims 1-3, 7-10, 12, 14-16, 18-19, 21-22, 26 and 28 variously sets forth

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a moveable core and a stationary insert. In contrast, Vander Kopple teaches a slide core 56 and a retractable pin 72 which are each moveable inserts that move within and relative to a stationary core. As such, Vender Kopple does not teach, disclose or suggest a moveable core that moves relative to a stationary insert.

For at least the reasons outlined above, Applicants respectfully submit that Vander Kopple fails to teach, disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 1-3, 7-10, 12, 14-16, 18-19, 21-23, 26 and 28. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Vander Kopple fails to anticipate claims 1-3, 7-10, 12, 14-16, 18-19, 21-23, 26 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a). Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1-3, 7-10, 12, 14-16, 18-19, 21-23, 26 and 28 is respectfully solicited.

II. Claim Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. § 103

A. Under the heading “Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103”, in the fifth paragraph, the Office Action rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as unpatentable over Vander Kopple. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is moot.

Claim 11 depends from claim 1. As outlined above with regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102, claim 1 has been amended to set forth a moveable core and a stationary insert. Also as outlined above, Vander Kopple does not teach, disclose or suggest either a moveable core or a stationary insert. Likewise, neither a moveable core nor a stationary insert is obvious in view of the disclosure of Vander Kopple.

For at least the reasons outlined above, Applicants respectfully submit that Vander Kopple fails to teach, disclose or suggest all of the features of claim 11. Therefore, Vander Kopple fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a). Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 11 as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully solicited.

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B. Under the heading “Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103”, in the second paragraph, the Office Action rejects claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as unpatentable over Vander Kopple in view of U.S. Patent 5,736,221 to Hardigg et al. (Hardigg). Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is moot in view of the cancelation of claim 4.

C. Under the heading “Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103”, in the third paragraph, the Office Action rejects claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as unpatentable over Vander Kopple in view of U.S. Patent 4,748,796 to Viel (Viel). Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is moot.

Claim 5 depends from claim 1. As outlined above with regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102, claim 1 has been amended to set forth a moveable core and a stationary insert. Neither Vander Kopple nor Viel teaches, discloses or suggests either a moveable core or a stationary insert. Rather, Viel is directed toward molding permanent adhesive compositions with a protective layer (e.g., of powder) on an outer surface of the composition. Likewise, the combination of Vander Kopple and Viel does not teach, disclose or suggest either a moveable core or a stationary insert.

For at least the reasons outlined above, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Vander Kopple and Viel fails to teach, disclose or suggest all of the features of claim 5. Therefore, the combination of Vander Kopple and Viel fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a). Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 5 as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully solicited.

D. Under the heading “Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103”, in the fourth paragraph, the Office Action rejects claims 6 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as unpatentable over Vander Kopple in view of U.S. Patent 6,726,868 to Panfili et al. (Panfili). Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is moot.

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Claim 6 depends from claim 1, while claim 17 depends from claim 15. As outlined above with regard to the rejection of claims 1 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, claims 1 and 15 have been variously amended to set forth a moveable core and a stationary insert. Neither Vander Kopple nor Panfili teaches, discloses or suggests either a moveable core or a stationary insert. Rather, Panfili is directed toward a double molding process that uses two molds and two molding process, with no parts that move during either of the molding processes. Likewise, the combination of Vander Kopple and Panfili does not teach, disclose or suggest either a moveable core or a stationary insert.

For at least the reasons outlined above, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Vander Kopple and Panfili fails to teach, disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 6 and 17. Therefore, the combination of Vander Kopple and Panfili fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claims 6 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a). Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 6 and 17 as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully solicited.

E. Under the heading “Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103”, in the sixth paragraph, the Office Action rejects claims 20, 24-25, 27 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as unpatentable over Vander Kopple in view of U.S. Patent 7,070,724 to Nakazawa (Nakazawa). Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is moot.

Claim 20 depends from claim 19, while claims 24-25 and 27 depend from claim 22. As outlined above with regard to the rejection of claims 19 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, claims 19 and 22 have been variously amended to set forth a moveable core and a stationary insert. Likewise, independent claim 29 has been similarly amended to set forth a moveable core and a stationary insert. Neither Vander Kopple nor Nakazawa teaches, discloses or suggests either a moveable core or a stationary insert. Rather, Nakazawa is directed toward a two-step molding process that uses two separate cavity blocks. Likewise, the combination of Vander Kopple and Nakazawa does not teach, disclose or suggest either a moveable core or a stationary insert.

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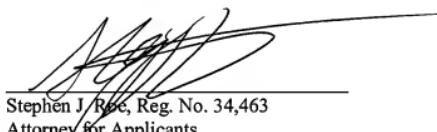
For at least the reasons outlined above, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Vander Kopple and Nakazawa fails to teach, disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 20, 24-25, 27 and 29. Therefore, the combination of Vander Kopple and Nakazawa fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness of claims 20, 24-25, 27 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a). Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 20, 24-25, 27 and 29 as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully solicited.

III. New Claims/Conclusion

A. By this amendment, Applicants have added claim 30. Claim 30 depends from claim 12. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 30 is allowable over the references of record at least for the reasons outlined above with regard to claim 12.

B. Applicants respectfully submit that all of claims 1-30 are in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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